

# **South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee**

Meeting minutes - final  
Room 121, Acton Town Hall  
07 February, 2013

## **Committee Members Present:**

- David Martin
- Clare Siska
- Tom Campbell
- Pat Clifford

## **Committee Members Not Present:**

- Sean Hanley
- Michaela Moran

## **Other Attendees:**

- Bengt Muten (TAC)
- John Sonner, Selectman
- Franny Osman (TAC)

**Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.**

### **1. Review of meeting minutes**

- Deferred

### **2. Comments from the Public**

- The committee received an email recently from Harrison Roberts of Boxborough asking about various aspects of the station project. Mr. Martin will respond.

### **3. Joint session with TAC to discuss ideas for pedestrian, bicycle, shuttle & car flow and safety on Maple Street and around the station**

- Mr. Martin summarized the discussion from the previous TAC meeting.
- Ms. Osman raised the possibility of having the shuttle pick up and drop off on Railroad Street
  - It was noted that residents of Railroad Street and Frank's Auto would be impacted by increased ("kiss and ride") traffic.
  - The station design includes a drop-off area that was specifically designed to accommodate the shuttle – though we cannot stop other vehicles from using it to drop off / pick up.
- Mr. Martin proposed that SATSAC bring some specific recommendations to the town.
- Some voiced concerns that SATSAC/TAC committee members do not have sufficient expertise to make recommendations of the magnitude that had been discussed, such as redirecting one way traffic; suggest we request traffic study funds at Town Meeting 2014.
- There is not complete consensus on the problem that needs to be solved – major themes were access and safety on the south side.
- Mr. Sonner suggested that we might want to wait until the station is built to monitor the impact and make recommendations based on real data.
- Mr. Martin recommends that in the short term we address traffic flow issues by striping Maple Street and Rte. 27 in the area of the bridge to designate turn lanes onto Maple Street.

- There is general consensus that we should approach the Sidewalk Committee about putting in an additional sidewalk at east end, north side of Maple Street at the junction of Rte. 27. This is to accommodate pedestrians approaching from the north (e.g., School Street, Nylander Way, Central Street) who should not have to cross to the south side Maple Street sidewalk and then recross Maple again to get to the station.
- SATSAC filled TAC members in on the possible uses that had been discussed for the Montourri property
- Ms. Osman noted that some commuters value the ability to park on Maple Street after 10 AM.
- Parking was noted as an ongoing concern for people who reach out to SATSAC – it is the issue they always ask about.
  - question of on-street parking on neighborhood streets
  - question of parking for late-coming commuters
  - need for more parking overall
  - Mr. Campbell notes that we have to design for the needs of the majority
- Mr. Martin proposes that SATSAC draft a letter to the Selectman noting the items of concern and some suggested ways to address them. The letter should include a requesting for a traffic study.
  - Ms. Osman requests that the TAC have an opportunity to provide input into the letter. This will happen after SATSAC members have a chance to review one or more drafts.
  - SATSAC wants Mr. York's input on issues discussed before the final letter goes to the BoS
  - Target to get letter to BoS by June 2013
  - Mr. Campbell will draft the letter and distribute to SATSAC before our next meeting.
  - Ms. Osman will share the last TAC meeting minutes and Ms. Siska will share her informal notes, for Mr. Campbell's reference.
  - The committee agreed on these areas of concern to be included:
    - left turn onto Maple travelling northbound on Rte. 27
    - pedestrians approaching from the north side and double crossing
    - traffic backing onto Main street when cars are queued up to drop off or pick up
    - safety of pedestrians around the south side entrance
    - impact of traffic on the Maple Street residential area

#### **4. Construction update – (concerns, schedule, disruptions, etc.) – finding out about upcoming construction**

- There is no update to report.

#### **5. Future Meetings, Calendar events over the next several months.**

- Upcoming SATSAC Committee Meetings –
  - 02/28/13
  - 03/21/13
  - + tbd after that

#### **6. Adjourn**

Ms. Clifford moved to adjourn. Mr. Campbell seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Clare Siska

*Links:*

<http://www.acton-ma.gov/satsac> is the SATSAC page.

<http://www.littletonma.org/content/49/3594/5590/default.aspx> is Littleton's MBTA Commuter Rail Advisory Committee.

[http://www.mbta.com/about\\_the\\_mbta/t\\_projects/default.asp?id=15585](http://www.mbta.com/about_the_mbta/t_projects/default.asp?id=15585) is the MBTA site about the project.

<http://groups.google.com/group/South-Acton-Rail-Chat?lnk=srg&hl=en> – South Acton Rail Chat